



# LIFETIME LEARNERS INSTITUTE

at Norwalk Community -Technical College ■ 188 Richards Avenue ■ Norwalk, CT 06854 ■ Tel. (203) 857-3330

December 18, 1996

The Honorable Reed Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814  
Washington, D.C. 20554

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt,

I am a private citizen who has retired from the computer industry, but who has continued to be involved in education. I am an officer of Lifetime Learners Institute, an affiliate of Norwalk community-technical college of Norwalk Connecticut. We are one of more than 207 Institutes for Learning in Retirement. Our institute alone has over 600 members, 50 years of age and older, who recognize the importance of education for members of communities all over the U.S. regardless of age. I want to commend you for the leadership you and the Joint Board have demonstrated for the strong decision you have made to ensure that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway. I urge that the FCC adopt the recommendations of the Joint Board.

I also urge that included in the recommendations be a request to congress to impose a sales tax on all telephone bills, the proceeds of which are to go directly into a fund to cover the cost of such a program. The purpose of the addition charge reflected in every phone bill should be clearly stated so that recipients will be made aware that they are making a contribution to the future of this country.

I no longer have children of school age but I cannot think of a better investment than assuring that all schools in this country , even the poorest, have truly affordable access to the Internet. I am a user of the Internet, even as a retiree. I use it to support volunteer efforts in addition to my own personal edification and pleasure. The potential it holds for advancing the educational levels of our future leaders is awesome.

For these reasons , and many more, I urge you to adopt the recommendations of Docket No. 96-45 and bring the greatest advancement in learning to our children since the invention of the printing press brought books into the hands of the masses.

Sincerely,

Berton Moldow, V.P.

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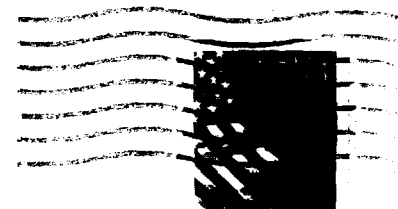
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188 Richards Avenue, Norwalk, CT 06854



The Honorable Reed Hundt  
Chairman

FCC  
1919 M Street N.W., Rm 814  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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... a commitment to the community.

North Scott Community School District  
251 East Iowa Street, Eldridge, Iowa 52748  
fax# 285-6075 phone (319) 285-4819

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December 18, 1996

The Honorable Reed Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

As a member of the School Board in the North Scott Community School District in Eldridge, Iowa, I applaud and thank you for your leadership in championing the cause of technology in our schools with your efforts to secure services and discounts for schools and libraries. The Joint Board's recommendations on affordable technology access for schools show insight into the necessity to provide these learning opportunities for our students. I urge the FCC to fully adopt the recommendations of the Joint Board.

As outlined in your recommendations, your plan has a flexibility which will enable schools to tailor their selections of services to their needs and what will work best in their district. Some schools have already received some help through grants and gifts for computers and hardware. This recommendation allows schools like us to go forward to planning curriculum and connecting to sources and technology to bring students in touch with today's and tomorrow's world.

One strategy in our district's Strategic Plan is to infuse technology into all curricular areas. The hardware, software, accessories, and phone line charges to accomplish this strategy will be a financial challenge to our school district. All of our buildings have been equipped internally to utilize our internal and external Internet capabilities in each classroom. Your recommendations will aid our district in financing these endeavors.

Thank you for a job well done! Please continue your leadership in helping to bring affordable technology access to our schools as the FCC comes to its final deliberations.

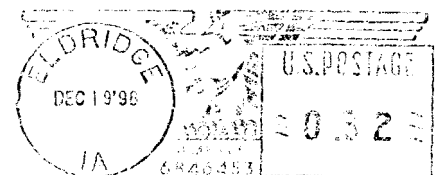
Sincerely,

*Janice Uitenbroek*

Janice Uitenbroek  
North Scott Community Schools  
School Board Member

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North Ott Community School District  
251 East Iowa  
Eldridge, IA 52748



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The Honorable Reed Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814  
Washington, D.C. 20554



December 16, 1996

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The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW, Room 814  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:


I am a school board member from Greenwood, SC School District #50. I am writing to thank you for your leadership, and the leadership of the Joint Board for their strong decision, to ensure that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway. I urge the FCC to fully adopt the recommendations of the Joint Board.

The discount range of 20 to 90 percent will ensure that all schools - even the poorest - have truly affordable access. The plan is also very flexible and will empower schools to select the services that work best for their educational mission. Including discounts on internal connections and Internet access is equally vital, and stands to bring services directly to the classroom where students learn.

We have done a very good job locally in getting our schools ready for the Internet. Most of the wiring is complete and a local grant has helped us purchase hardware and external connections to provide dial-up capabilities for the schools. One of our most outstanding needs at this point is to place more PCs with modems in the classrooms so that they can connect to the services. These reductions in fees for Internet access and other telecommunications services can be applied to meet these needs.

As you move ahead in your deliberation on this important issue, I urge you to seize the opportunity to bring 21<sup>st</sup> century learning to our school children.

Sincerely,



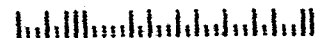
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Excellence  
Through  
Teamwork



Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
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Washington, DC 20554

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December 16, 1996

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1919 M Street, NW, Room 814  
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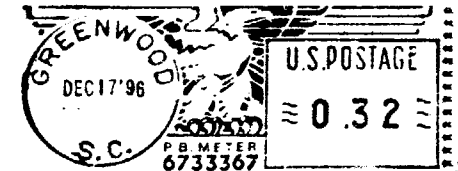
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Sincerely,



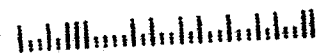
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Through  
Teamwork



Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW, Room 814  
Washington, DC 20554

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# Bloomsburg Area School District

728 EAST FIFTH STREET BLOOMSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17815-2305 (717) 784-5000 FAX (717) 387-8832

DR. ALEX J. DUBIL  
Superintendent

JOSEPH SPRINGER, CPA  
Business Administrator

DR. KATHLEEN MULLIGAN  
Director-Curriculum & Instruction

DR. VANNA B. CLEARY  
Psychologist

DAVID C. LIVENGOD  
Director-Special Programs

December 16, 1996

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

As elected school board members from the Bloomsburg (PA) Area School District we would like to thank you for your leadership, as well as the leadership of the Joint Board, and your strong decision to ensure that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Super-highway. We urge the FCC to fully adopt the recommendations of the Joint Board.

A discount range of 20 to 90 percent will ensure that all schools, even the poorest, have truly affordable access. The plan is also very flexible and will empower schools to select the services that work best for their educational mission.

The inclusion of discounts on internal connections and Internet access is equally vital, and stands to bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. We would hope to benefit directly in the areas of connectivity within and between school buildings, and increased access to the Internet for elementary and secondary students, and their teachers.

As you move ahead in your deliberation on this important issue, we urge you to seize this opportunity to bring 21st century learning to all our school children.

Sincerely,

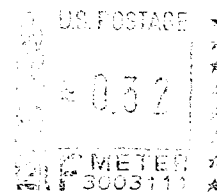
Linda B. Bailey President  
Donna M. Kershner Vice President  
Susan L. Hefner-Mark Secretary  
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Robert Kelly Member  
Francis J. Wenzel Member  
Deborah T. Coleman Member  
Don Budenstine Member  
Kathy Young Member

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**Bloomsburg Area School District**

728 East Fifth Street  
Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania 17815-2305



The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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December 17, 1996

The Honorable Reed Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am a school board member from Alliance Public Schools, and I would like to thank you for your leadership and the leadership of the Joint Board for their strong decision to ensure that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway. I urge the FCC to fully adopt the recommendations of the Joint Board.

The discount range of 20 to 90 percent will ensure that all schools - even the poorest - have truly affordable access. The plan is also very flexible and will empower schools to select the services that work best for their educational mission. The inclusion of discounts on internal connections and Internet access is equally vital and stands to bring services directly to the classroom where students learn.

Currently all computers in Alliance Public Schools' five classroom buildings are on a local area network. The district is in the process of connecting each of the buildings and the Administration building through a Wide Area Network. The system will also be connected to a T-1 line for Internet access. The State of Nebraska has enacted a zero percent lid on spending for the 1997-98 school year and the continued ability to provide these technological capabilities that enhance the education of our students will be greatly impaired without some type of assistance.

As you move ahead in your deliberation on this important issue, I urge you to seize this opportunity to bring 21<sup>st</sup> century learning to our school children.

Sincerely,



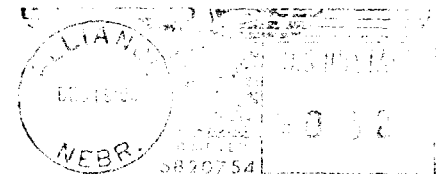
Mark Seeborn  
Board Member

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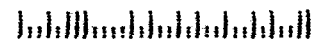
ALLIANCE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
ALLIANCE, NEBRASKA 69301-2599

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The Honorable Reed Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814  
Washington, D.C. 20554



December 17, 1996

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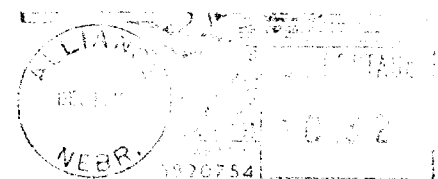


Sandra Moore  
Board Member

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ALLIANCE, NEBRASKA 68102-2599

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The Honorable Reed Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814  
Washington, D.C. 20554



December 17, 1996

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The Honorable Reed Hundt  
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Washington, D.C. 20554

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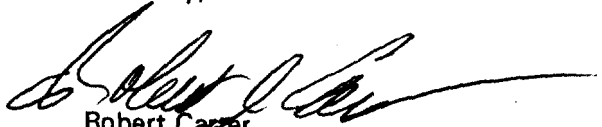
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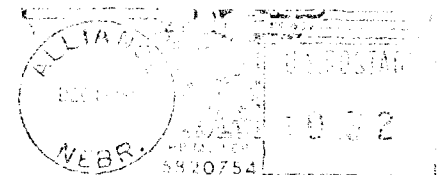
  
Robert Carter  
Board President

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ALLIANCE, NEBRASKA 68301-2599

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The Honorable Reed Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814  
Washington, D.C. 20554





December 17, 1996

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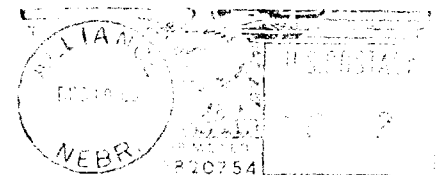
*Ralph Aldinger*

Ralph Aldinger  
Board Secretary

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ALLIANCE, NEBRASKA 69301-2599

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The Honorable Reed Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814  
Washington, D.C. 20554



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December 17, 1996

The Honorable Reed Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am the Superintendent of Schools from Alliance Public Schools, and I would like to thank you for your leadership and the leadership of the Joint Board for their strong decision to ensure that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway. I urge the FCC to fully adopt the recommendations of the Joint Board.

The discount range of 20 to 90 percent will ensure that all schools - even the poorest - have truly affordable access. The plan is also very flexible and will empower schools to select the services that work best for their educational mission. The inclusion of discounts on internal connections and Internet access is equally vital and stands to bring services directly to the classroom where students learn.

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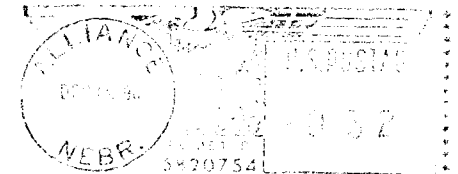


William A. Gannon  
Superintendent

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ALLIANCE, NEBRASKA 69301-2599

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The Honorable Reed Hundt  
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1919 M Street, N. W., Room 814  
Washington, D.C. 20554





MANITOWOC  
PUBLIC SCHOOL  
DISTRICT

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December 10, 1996

Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Hundt:

According to the November 15, 1996, Wisconsin Association of School Board's *Legislative Update*, the Universal Service Fund Advisory Council has announced that school district administrative offices not located in a school building are not eligible for the rate discount program. What an absurd decision that is!

The Manitowoc Public School District is planning on locating its wide area network (WAN) hub at the central office building. The reasons for locating the WAN hub at the central office building are:

1. space is available at the central office,
2. the technicians are located at the central office,
3. administrators can monitor the WAN,
4. the main file server is located at the central office,
5. business office accounting system is located at the central office, and
6. central library is located at the central office.

The Manitowoc Public School District is looking into the possibility of bringing in a T-1 telecommunication line into the school district. With a price of \$1,300 per month, the discount of 30 % or \$300, whichever is less, would make the telecommunication plan more affordable. I do not believe the purpose of Telecommunication Act 1996 was to exclude school districts from discounts because of what school district building they bring the telecommunication line into.

Please help make the legislation more flexible and available to all school district buildings. The Manitowoc Public School District would greatly appreciate service in this matter.

If you have any questions, please give me a call at 414-683-4795.

Sincerely,

Kenneth W. Mischler  
Director of Business Services

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MANITOWOC PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

Administration Offices • 1010 Huron Street

Post Office Box 1657 • Manitowoc, WI 54221-1657



REED HUNDT, CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

1919 M STREET

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

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# KALAMAZOO VALLEY INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT

1819 East Milham Road • Kalamazoo, MI 49002 • Phone 616/385-1500 • Fax 616/381-3523

December 18, 1996

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Room 814  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

Congratulations! On behalf of the K-12 children in Kalamazoo County, I would like to thank you and the Joint Board for your efforts to ensure that all schools will have affordable access to the information superhighway. I urge the FCC fully to adopt the recommendations of the Joint Board. The educational rate discount for all telecommunications services, internal wiring and Internet access, makes for a well-rounded plan - one that allows school districts to implement flexible technology plans supporting exciting new curriculums.

Kalamazoo Valley Intermediate School District has been pursuing the use of interactive video as a means to share intra-district learning resources through our Technologies In Distance Education (TIDE) project. Local foundations have supported TIDE by funding the acquisition of the electronics required for student participation at each district site. However, the cost of leasing transmission lines to carry the information has been a major obstacle to completing the project. Of course, we are very excited about the door of opportunity the decisive leadership of the Joint Board has opened for us.

As you enter the period of deliberation on this most important issue, I urge you not to sway from this plan that will maximize the learning potential of our students in the 21st Century.

Sincerely,

W. Jack Keiser, President  
Board of Education  
Kalamazoo Valley Intermediate School District

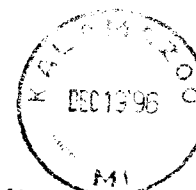
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**KALAMAZOO VALLEY  
INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

1819 East Milham Road  
Kalamazoo, Michigan 49002

PREPAID  
FIRST CLASS



00261

METER 645384

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**DEC 23 1996**

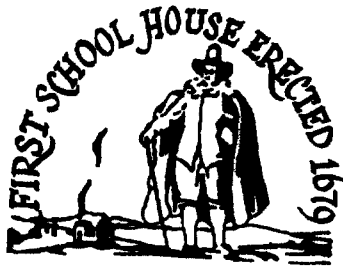
THE HONORABLE REED HUNT, CHAIRMAN  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
1919 M STREET NW  
ROOM 814  
WASHINGTON DC 20554

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**THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS of SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS**

**School Committee**

Voice: (413) 787-7874

Fax: (413) 787-7171

Central Office  
P.O. Box 1410  
195 State Street  
Springfield, MA  
01102-1410

Date: December 19, 1996

The Honorable Reed Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt,

The School Committee of the Springfield Public School System in Springfield, MA would like to thank you for your leadership and the leadership of the Joint Board for their strong decision to ensure that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway. We urge the FCC to fully adopt the recommendations of the Joint Board.

The discount range of 20 to 90 percent will ensure that all schools – even the poorest – have truly affordable access. The plan is also very flexible and will empower schools to select the services that work best for their educational mission. The inclusion of discounts on internal connections and Internet access is equally vital and stands to bring services directly to the classroom where students learn.

The SPS Technology Committee is finalizing their "Five Year Technology Plan" which will be submitted to the state for approval. Your work will further assist the school system in bringing the goals of this plan to reality.

As you move ahead in your deliberation on this important issue, I urge you to seize this opportunity to bring 21<sup>st</sup> century learning to our schoolchildren.

Sincerely,

Hon. Michael J. Albano  
Mayor, Chairman of School Committee

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